



# MONTEREY NEWS

JUNE 1998  
VOLUME XXVIII · Number 6



## TOWN NEWS

### Annual Town Meeting

**School Budget Passes.** Despite the possible over-assessment to Monterey, the school budget, trimmed to the bone, passed after a presentation by Superintendent William Cooper, and with the recommendation of Jed Lipsky, Monterey's School Committee representative. Select Board member Peter Brown introduced an amendment which would have sequestered \$7000 of Monterey's school budget assessment. The idea was to hold the funds until the Select and Finance Boards were satisfied that a legal solution had been reached regarding the assessment inequities among the five towns in the school district. The crowd of about eighty voters, out of a possible 507, turned down this proposal after considering what effect Monterey's sequestering of funds might have on the other towns yet to hold a vote.

Superintendent Cooper expressed confidence that a task force, comprised of representatives from the five towns, would find a solution to the assessment tangle. He explained that the method of proportioning assessment to towns under the Education Reform Act (1994) was designed for single town districts, and did not take into consideration multi-town districts such as the Southern Berkshire Regional School District. He added that the state has no apparent solution or suggestion as to how to proportion SBRSD assessments, and has left the answer up to the five towns to determine.

(Since Monterey's Town Meeting, the school budget has passed with Sheffield,



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*The British are coming! This time around it's for the second annual Colonial Encampment at the Bidwell House. See page nine for details.*

Alford, and Egremont approving their assessments, and New Marlborough cutting theirs as a protest of past over-assessments.)

**One-Stop Dumping Approved.** Citizens voted to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2 the amount required to pay for improvements to the town Transfer Station. Peter Vallianos of the Solid Waste Committee showed drawings of the design proposal. There will be two catwalks, one for disposing of bottles and cans, and plastics, the other for bulky waste. A concrete walkway will be in front of the entire facility for a neater and cleaner area. Also, a metal kick plate below the container will help eliminate litter and blowing debris.

Joyce Scheffey praised the efforts of committee members Peter Vallianos and Rudy Gero for their work on the project.

**Board of Health Remains Tied to Select Board.** Article 23, to separate the Board of Health from the Select Board, was defeated after all three Select Board members spoke against it. Peter Brown stated, "I think this is a dumb article." Select Board members pointed out that, with the Board of Health separate from the Select Board, Board of Health decisions can be over-ridden by the Select Board, and those who present septic designs are aware of this. With the boards separated there is more "wiggle room" according to Gige O'Connell, past member of both boards for nine years. "The Board of Health would have no clout," she said. The Select Board stated that Title 5 regulations, which require improved septic systems, need a strong Board of Health to insure its enforcement for the benefit of the homeowners and the community. If the boards were to be

separated, there were questions regarding the possible staggering of elections, to insure that there would always be an experienced member on the Health Board. Town counsel Hugh Cowhig stated that "It can't be done. You have to elect all at one time, according to the way that the article reads." Both those in favor and against the article agreed that tri-town sanitarian Peter Kolodziej is indispensable to insuring sound septic systems.

**Wilson House In Limbo.** Article 21, which proposed to set up another committee to consider cost and use of the Wilson House for municipal offices, was defeated after Dan Andrus and Martin



Cherneff pointed out that the proposal would duplicate the work of the original Edith Wilson House Committee. Also cited was the passage of article 19, which provides for the creation and distribution of a questionnaire that will aid in determining citizen priorities for planning for Monterey's future, and will assess public opinion regarding the property. The Town approved \$2000 for article 19.

#### **Full-time Chief Again Under Fire.**

Fiscal watch dog Dick Tryon questioned the need in Monterey for a full-time police chief, as well as the \$1000 increase for that budget item. Tryon believes that a full-time chief is unnecessary in a town the size of Monterey. Leroy Thorpe supported Tryon by suggesting Backhaus' salary be lowered to from the proposed \$34,840 to \$18,500; the approximate cost of a part-time police chief. Peter Brown replied that Backhaus' salary is no more than average for a community of this size. He also replied to the suggestion that the State Police are an adequate back up for a part-time chief, "It's o.k. if you're prepared to wait two or three hours." Jack Ryder added that, although he does not believe we need a full-time chief, since the position was approved at last year's Town Meeting it should be properly funded. One member of the audience said that he liked the atmosphere of protection provided by a full-time police chief. Charles Ferris pointed out that second home owners

deserve the full-time surveillance, and said to drag out the argument of last year ad nauseam would be a waste of time. Ferris called the question and the police chief's salary was approved.

**Del Martin Models.** In response to questions regarding Article 12, a \$21,858 appropriation for firefighter "turnout gear," volunteer firefighter Del Martin showed citizens the helmet, boots, jacket, and gloves required for fire fighting. Martin also indicated how worn out the present gear is. His demonstration was helpful and the request was granted.

The meeting also reaffirmed approval given at a Special Town Meeting September 5, 1997, to authorize the Town to borrow \$200,000 from the State to help local homeowners bring their septic systems into compliance with Title Five regulations. These loans are administrated through the Town and interest on the loans is retained by the Town.

The meeting was adjourned about 1 p.m.

Since Town Meeting the special task force from the five towns in the Southern Berkshire Regional School district has met to begin to determine how to apportion school expenses. To date, no solution has been reached. The one-man/one-vote question seems to be resolved with school committee members being appointed by the town select boards. However, the payment of legal expenses for this wrangle has not been settled.

Also since Town Meeting, the Select Board has unanimously elected Fred Chapman chair of both the Select Board and the Board of Health.

**Memorial Day Festivities.** Frank D'Amato, designer of the Monterey Veterans Memorial Park, raised the flag as veteran Arnold Hayes blew Taps, and guns saluted our loyal local veterans. This was the first annual Memorial Day service to be held at the new Veteran's Memorial Park, located at the corner of Route 23 and Blue Hill Road. The service began with an invocation by Keith Snow, pastor of the Monterey United Church of Christ. State Representative Chris Hodgkins was also present, and spoke of how indebted we are to the many who gave their time, and sometimes their lives, for our country. He said that it was fitting for Americans every-

where to pause today, and feel thankful for those who served in wars to preserve the freedoms enjoyed in the United States. Select Board members laid wreaths at the base of each monument.

The aura of the park is one of elegant solemnity. Tall trees shade the three handsome black granite steles, each engraved and raised on a knoll of grass. The most prominent monument, facing Route 23, identifies the park, while another names Monterey veterans of World War II, and a third commemorates veterans from World War I, Korea, and Vietnam. A fourth stele will honor the names of Montereyans who served in the Civil War. The park invites one to pause for reflection and contemplation.


Dean Amidon, chair of the Veteran's Memorial Committee, said that contributions are still very much in order for completing the park. Plans call for a fourth stele, benches, landscaping, and the installation of a solar light which will allow the flag to be flown and seen all night. Please send checks to the Select Board of Monterey.

**The Parade.** Only in Monterey could the clouds break, the sprinkles stop, and the sun break through just as the parade was beginning. Regardless of an ominous sky, a large crowd had assembled. The traditional color guard, Monterey veterans, and the Mount Everett High School Marching Band led the Select Board, school children, Little Leaguers, Camp Fire kids, the 4-H, and the Monterey Fire Company to the town center. Here the parade paused for a Memorial Day remembrance led by Master of Ceremonies Dean Amidon.

New to the parade this year was the "Monterey Piece-makers" float, on which rode the ladies of Monterey who have created a beautiful quilt to be raffled for the benefit of the Meeting House restoration. Local equestrienne Sudi Baker was missed in the parade this year, but she was replaced by her mother Bonner McAllester. Also present was the newest addition to the Baker-McAllester clan, Ruby, a black and brown pup who preferred being carried by owner Cora Baker rather than riding.

The parade and crowd proceeded to the pavilion behind the Fire House for hot dogs, cold drinks and music under a very cheerful sky.

— Jane Black



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The *Monterey News* is published monthly under the auspices of Monterey United Church of Christ, Monterey, MA 01245.



PHOTO CONTEST UPDATE

The deadline of April 29 has passed, and all submissions of work for the Susan McAllester Memorial Photo Contest have been received. The images will be judged by husband and wife photography duo Dan and Coco McCoy. Dan McCoy is an internationally-known magazine and editorial photographer with a long list of credits, including *Time Magazine*, *Newsweek*, *National Geographic*, and *Life Magazine*, as well as countless ads and book projects. Dan is represented by Rainbow, a stock photo agency that is owned and directed by Coco McCoy. A graphic artist by design, Coco is an excellent photographer in her own right, and an experienced photo editor with an eagle eye.

The McCoy's were asked to judge the contest because of their many accomplishments in the world of professional photography. As an added bonus they are familiar with the Berkshires, having made Housatonic their home for the past twenty three years. For those of you with access to the internet, Rainbow's stock photo images may be viewed at their web site: [rainbowimages.com](http://rainbowimages.com).

All entries will be judged for composition, clarity, subject matter, and general interest. The winners and the runners up will be featured in the July issue of the *Monterey News*, with a special section devoted to the contest.

— Maggie Leonard

PARK COMMISSION

Beach Passes

This season beach passes will be issued at the Town Hall, one per address. They have been laminated and are intended to be used for three years. As usual, the passes are to be displayed on the dashboard of your car. Passes may be picked up weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., except Wednesdays when the hours are 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The beach will open for the season on Saturday, June 13. Lifeguard hours are 12-6 p.m. weekdays, and 10a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends and holidays. Swimming lessons will take place the last week of July and the first week of August and will again be hosted by Swim America. The lessons are offered to school-aged children, and registration forms can be obtained at the Town Hall or the Monterey General Store. Have a great summer at the beach!

— Tom Rosenthal

MONTEREY LIBRARY

Monday.....7-9 p.m.  
Tuesday.....9:30 a.m.-noon  
Wednesday .....3-5 p.m.  
Saturday .....9:30 a.m.-noon  
.....7-9 p.m.

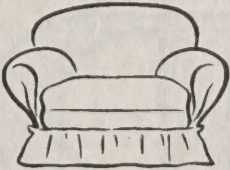
Phone 528-3795

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

On Friday, June 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Knox Museum, (attached to the Monterey Public Library) Rachel Fletcher will give a presentation on the Housatonic River. Fletcher is the coordinator of the Housatonic River Restoration, and the coordinator of the Great Barrington Housatonic River Walk. The talk will include a short historical perspective of the river, and a discussion of the countywide river clean-up project. Fletcher also endeavors to learn from the audience how a sense of history might best be drawn from the river as work continues. Refreshments will follow.

— Robert Rausch

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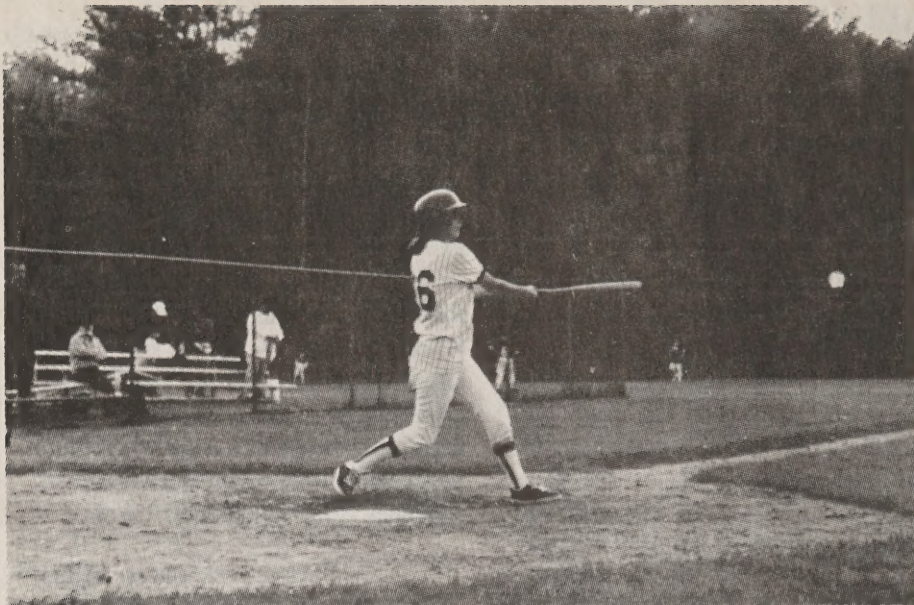
**FLEA MARKET**  
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**8 a.m.-3p.m.**  
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Little League season is in full swing. Kate-Lynn Paulson, of the Monterey Yankees, connected for a nice hit during batting practice.

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## COUNCIL ON AGING

The Monterey Council on Aging will host a luncheon at noon on Friday, June 26, in the basement of the Town Hall. Returning summer residents are cordially invited to join the group.

— Pauline Nault

## LAKE GARFIELD ASSOCIATION

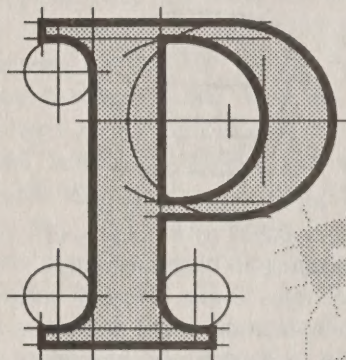
Well, it finally stopped raining and I'm sure we are all looking forward to another fine summer on the Lake. With and luck our little weevil friends weathered the winter well, and are currently gorging themselves on our ample supply of milfoil (an aquatic weed).

Unfortunately, our grant request to the State was declined this year. We were hoping to purchase a much bigger supply of milfoil weevils to advance our efforts against the proliferating weed. The State apparently had a problem with providing public money to Lake Garfield when our public access is so restricted. This issue has surfaced at many different times since the new dam construction and we are working to resolve their concerns.

Our first meeting of the year will be held on Saturday, June 20, at 10 a.m. at the Firehouse. It will be a special meeting in that we have arranged a presentation from the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission regarding alternative septic systems. These new and expensive technologies are designed to bring failing septic systems into compliance with Title Five regulations, and I am constantly asked questions about their use or application. It will be a great opportunity to come and learn about these systems, and for everyone to ask questions.

We will also be discussing many other relevant lake-related issues, including the much published personal watercraft debate. We are in need of people willing to help out with the Lake Garfield Association, and we will be holding officer elections later in the year. If you are interested, please attend the meeting or contact me at (860) 295-0516.

— David Quisenberry  
President, Lake Garfield Association



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**NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL  
AND MONTEREY SCHOOL**

The end of the school year is just a page turn of the calendar away. The last concerts of the year have been performed, and once again almost fifty percent of the student body participated. If your third grader is interested in playing an instrument, instruction begins in fourth grade. He or she has the choice of flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, trombone, french horn, euphonium (baritone horn) and percussion.

On May 22 the entire student body of New Marlborough Central School went to Mount Everett for Old-Time Technology Day, sponsored by the Hudson Valley Old-Time Power Association and Mount Everett. Students were treated to displays of antique power machinery such as wringer washing machines, a gold miner's sieve, and a corn grinder. There were also examples of man and animal-powered machinery, such as hand shingles, a two-man saw, log rolling, and oxen teams. The high point of the morning was a hayride around the Mount Everett campus.

The fourth grade stayed for an orientation to Undermountain Elementary School which they will attend next fall.

— Deborah Mielke

**DAFFODIL RESULTS**

The American Cancer Society and I thank you all for contributing by ordering daffodils during the Daffodil Days fund-raiser. We held our own this year. The event has gone from one person, me, in 1985 selling fifty seven bunches, to fifteen workers and 271 bunches sold in 1998. Monterey has done very well!

We welcomed new callers this year-Jane Black, Nancy Rowley, Michelle Miller and Anita Carroll-Weldon. Returning volunteers were Shelly Bynack, Leona Chamberlain, Ruth Champigny, Carol Edleman, Stephanie Grotz, Maureen Hough, Maggie Leonard, Debbie Mielke, Monica Wahlberg, and Cynthia Webber. Patty Mielke takes over when I leave, and Gayle and Maynard cheerfully accept the burden of storing and distributing the flowers (without which it would not work!). Next year we'll be even better organized and try to hit 400 bunches.

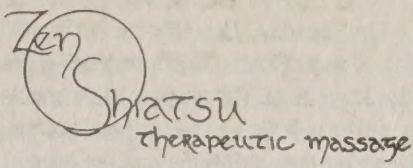
It's a great cause and a dynamite group; we thank each and every one for volunteering their time and efforts. Now let's enjoy the flowers finally blooming in our own yards. Happy summer.

— Fran Amidon

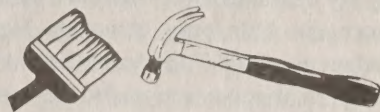


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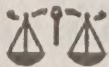
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## WILSON/MCLAUGHLIN HOUSE

On Tuesday, June 16, at 7 p.m. the Edith Wilson House Committee will meet at the Town Hall. The purpose of the meeting will be to review what has been accomplished by the committee and the current status of the property. All members of the Monterey community are invited and encouraged to attend, to share their ideas for the future of the property.

The first order of business when the property was turned over to the town was to restore the little gray house on New Marlborough Road. Then it could be rented and the rental income returned to the town. This was done and the house has been rented for approximately two years. The next job was to hire a structural engineer to report on the condition of the house. This report is on file. Then it was necessary to hire an appraiser to go over all the furniture, artifacts, and personal belongings that constituted the memories from Edith's life. This was followed by an auction, painful for many of us, where the contents of the house and all of the paintings were sold. Meanwhile, there were negotiations with the trustees and lawyers to be sure that both

the letter of the law, and the intent of the will, were followed.

The house has been painted, the grounds maintained, heat and electricity provided to preserve the interior of the house. These are the kinds of details that have to be attended to. The committee has just received the completed survey of the property, and this will be available at the meeting.

The Select Board and the committee met recently with Virgil Stucker who administers the Berkshire Taconic Foundation funds, including the Wilson/McLaughlin Scholarship Fund, to update him on where the town stands with regard to the property. There were some suggestions put forth at that meeting which were interesting to him, and he may be able to help us with funding. Please remember that if the town does not use this property, it will revert to the scholarship fund to which Edith Wilson has already made a very generous bequest.

Absolutely nothing is cast in stone for the municipal use of this property. This generous gift to the town is too valuable to Monterey to let it go. It's an opportunity for use that will not come again. If you have suggestions and cannot come to the meeting, please speak to a committee member. They are: Dan Adrus, Lew Scheffey, Gerry Shapiro, and Gige O'Connell. Better yet, join with your neighbors on Tuesday, June 16 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

— Gige O'Connell

## SOLID WASTE

### Bulky Waste Days

Here is a chance to clean out the old junk from the garage, the attic, the basement and all the other nooks and crannies in your house. Bulky waste will be collected at the town Transfer Station, during regular hours, on July 15, 18, and 19.

The following items will be accepted in the bulky waste container: furniture, mattresses, rugs, televisions, old household items such as vacuum cleaners and toasters, window frames, screens, old doors, and small bits and pieces left over from do-it-yourself household projects.

However, not everything goes! These items will not be permitted in the bulky waste container: demolition debris, recyclable metals and white goods (i.e. pots and pans, old flatware, fridges, stoves). White goods may be put in the metals container which is available all year at the Transfer Station. Also forbidden are toxic materials such as pesticides, chemicals, and motor oil. Save these items for the Hazardous Waste collection day later this year.

Also please note that there is one compost bin left for twenty-five dollars. This bin must be sold before we can place our next order. Please contact Joyce at 528-0550.

— Joyce Scheffey

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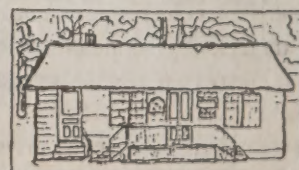
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-- Matthew Breuer, a Roadside regular

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## FORTUNE-TELLING, PCBS, AND NIKE

Two or three weeks ago I was reading an interesting story from the Acts of the Apostles (Ch. 16:16-24). It was about an incident during Paul's visit to Philippi, a Roman colony in Macedonia. A slave girl, possessed by a "spirit of divination" (fortune-telling) is following Paul and his companion, Silas, and crying out "These men are slaves of the most high God, who proclaims to you a way of salvation." After several days of this, Paul, "very much annoyed," rebukes the spirit and orders it to come out of the girl. The owners of the slave are incensed at this sudden turn of events. As a fortune-teller the slave was valuable, income-producing "property." They have Paul and Silas arrested, flogged, and imprisoned.

There are several interesting aspects to this story (which I have only partially related). But I find Paul's interference with the slave girl's economic security particularly interesting. The girl remains a slave, but the exorcism denies her owners of a source of income. Paul obviously feels justified in his action, as do the slave's owners.

When one challenges the status quo clarity of thought and action are very important, as well as a willingness to accept the consequences. There is so much stridency in our public and private discourse and conversation these days. In particular, I am thinking of the public debate surrounding General Electric and PCB pollution, and Nike's employment practices in Asia. Increasingly, corporate social responsibility needs to be discussed and acted upon by society at large, and the Christian community in particular. In the midst of these debates the need for more light on the issues, and less heat surrounding them, becomes apparent. More honesty and integrity, and less disingenuousness and dissembling. More responsibility and accountability, and fewer outcries of victimization. A Calvin and Hobbes comic strip illustrates the point. The two are walking outside and Calvin is telling his friend, Hobbes, "Nothing I do is my fault. My family is dysfunctional and my parents won't empower me! Consequently, I'm not self-actualized!" He

continues, "My behavior is addictive functioning in a disease process of toxic codependency! I need holistic healing and wellness before I'll accept any responsibility for my actions!" Hobbes scratches his head and responds: "One of us needs to stick his head in a bucket of ice water." Calvin says: "I love the culture of victimhood."

It is my opinion that individuals and corporations need to be held accountable for abusive employment and environmental practices. Where is the corporate accountability when Nike employs underage Asian youth who are paid inadequate wages, especially when compared to C.E.O. Philip Knight's salary, and work in unhealthy workplace conditions? What about General Electric and PCB pollution and disposal - is this the equivalent of Hobbes' "bucket of ice water?" The huge disparity between what those two corporations pay their chief executive officers, and what they pay their employees, is obscene. It stems from a culture of arrogance that is exemplified by a former C.E.O. of General Motors, who once said, "What is good for G.M. is good for America." Evidently this is a defense of their multi-million dollar salaries.

To return to the story I mentioned at the beginning, Paul's exorcism is coming out of a petty, personal annoyance. But there is more to this event. Paul is primarily concerned with proclaiming what he believes to be a whole new order for life as embodied in Jesus. It is an order that has

profound implications for economics, which, incidentally, is derived from the Greek word, "oikonomos" meaning "the management of a household". The "order" or "economics" that Jesus is describing is, in part, based on mutual honesty, respect and love; a healthy antidote to the current economic [shareholder] frenzy that is at work in the New York Stock Exchange. Paul's economics, wittingly or unwittingly, undercut the economics of the slave owners by depriving them of the girl's fortune-telling capability. (Unfortunately, nothing was said about the fact that she was a slave!)

Underneath all the public and private debate about corporations and the way they are making money, is the basic truth that people (employees) are not a commodity to be exploited. The same goes for the environment. But that is not what is happening. The making of money has assumed a status beyond all reason. Witness the rapid rise of casinos and Power Ball lotteries. It reminds me of a feeding frenzy acted out in the wilds of nature. It is scary! I think that is the reason why it is so important for us to emphasize, again, the need to get our own personal house in order first. The question is: Who or what is managing our house? Interestingly enough, the annoying fortune-telling slave girl knew who was managing Paul's! She was crying out: "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation."

— Keith Snow, Pastor  
Monterey United Church of Christ



### MONTEREY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## MONTEREY'S NEWEST PARK

Hey! Have you seen the nearly completed Veteran's Memorial Park? All names of Monterey Veterans are inscribed on monuments, from the Revolutionary War on through Vietnam. We greatly appreciate the approximately \$19,000 raised from *private* funds, and we continue to solicit donations to complete the project. If you are interested in enhancing the park so that it will be "user friendly", please make a donation or an additional donation. We look forward to bringing in some benches and continuing to work on the landscaping of our newest park.

— Dean Amidon

Monterey Veterans Memorial Committee

## THE BIDWELL HOUSE

This past autumn Berkshire photographer Paul Rocheleau and author David Larkin visited The Bidwell House museum, and toured the heirloom gardens in search of material for a new book. As a result, a stunning photo of The Bidwell House, taken from the herb garden, will grace the front cover of a book entitled *Country Acres*, published by Houghton Mifflin. In addition, a large photo of the interior of the 1836 carriage barn, displaying herbs drying after harvest, will also be included. *Country Acres* is the second in a series of handsomely illustrated books. It is about the history and culture of country life, focusing on the world outside the house; barns, woodsheds, fields, and gardens.

The Bidwell House will host a book signing of *Country Acres* with the author at the museum on Saturday, June 13 from 1-3 p.m. The book signing will include a tour of the gardens and some traditional Mai Bowle punch for you to sample, all for free admission. You can purchase *Country Acres* at The Bidwell House. Houghton Mifflin will also distribute the book to bookstores throughout the country.

Originally from London, England, author David Larkin has a long list of publishing credits to his name in addition to experience as an art director with Granada Publishing, Ballantine Books, and Pan Books in Britain. Larkin also collaborated with Alan Lee and Brian Froud on *Faeries*, which became a New York Times best-seller in 1978. He later worked on such large projects as The National Air and Space Museum, and The Museum of American History for the Smithsonian Institution.

Some of Mr. Larkin's recent books include *Frank Lloyd Wright*, *The Masterworks*; *American Masterworks*, *The Twentieth Century House*; and *Frederick Law Olmstead, Designing the American Landscape*. He is also the editor-designer of the best selling *Barn*, and *Shaker*, and *Country Wisdom*, as well as the author of

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*Farm*, among many other illustrated books.

Berkshire photographer Paul Rocheleau is noted for his book projects for the nationally known publishing houses of Houghton Mifflin, Rizzoli, and Monacelli Press. During the last three years, his photography has been prominent in the architectural books *Frank Lloyd Wright, the Masterworks*, and *American Masterworks, the Twentieth Century House*, both for Rizzoli. Rocheleau has co-authored *Shaker Built - Form and Function of Shaker Architecture*, from Monacelli Press, which was the recipient of the 1995 American Institute of Architecture (AIA) award for best book. Mr. Rocheleau was also the co-author and photographer for *Fredrick Law Olmstead, Designing the American Landscape* for Rizzoli. This book received an AIA award for excellence in 1996. His list of magazine credits include *Architectural Digest*, *Colonial Homes*, *Newsweek*, *Historic Preservation*, and *Antiques*..

On Saturday, June 27 and Sunday, June 28, in collaboration with the Division of the Living History Association, the Bidwell House will host the Colonial Encampment. This event is a unique opportunity to step back in time and experience the family camp life that took place around the American Revolution.

Over fifty men, women, and children, will be representing the Twenty fifth Regiment of American Blue Coats, His Majesty's Twenty fourth Regiment of Foot, and Saint Peter's Corps— The Queen's Loyal Rangers. On location at the beautiful eighteenth-century setting of the Bidwell House, authentic wedge and wall tents with dining flies will mark the site of both the British and American camps. Visitors can stroll through the camps, witness frontier cooking, and get a first-hand look at authentic eighteenth-century camp gear, military garb and weapons, and clothing and accoutrements. Each day will have a scheduled battle skirmish and uniform and clothing presentations.

This is an excellent event for the whole family. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$1 for children. The Colonial Encampment is held from 11a.m.-4 p.m.

both days. the Bidwell House is located at 100 Art School Road, Monterey, MA. For more information please call (413) 528-6888.

The museum's busy summer season is upon us and we need volunteers for jobs like gardening, taking tickets, parking cars, poster, office work, and helping with tours. Volunteering your time helps our programs run more smoothly, and you get free admission to the event. It's an opportunity to meet wonderful people, and there is the satisfaction of knowing you have helped make The Bidwell House educational programs a success. What a wonderful way to spend a summer afternoon! Just call 528-6888.

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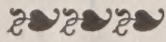
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The Bidwell House is the cover art for his new book *Country Acres*  
published by Houghton Mifflin

**Saturday, June 13, 1:00 - 3:00**  
**Art School Road - Monterey - 528-6888**



## THE FAMILY NETWORK/ CHILDREN'S HEALTH, INC.

The Family Center is located at 940 South Main Street, Great Barrington, call 528-0721 for more information. All activities are at the Family Center unless otherwise noted.

**Summer Health Tips.** During these summer months when children are delighted to be outdoors, remember to use some precautions: use sun block, have plenty of water to drink, keep children well covered when walking through fields or woods, and check them carefully for ticks when returning from walks.

**Daycare Financial Aid.** For parents who need help paying for day care there are several options in the Berkshires. If you are the parent of a three or four year old, and are working, the following organizations are available to provide help: Southern Berkshire Regional School District, Catherine Tower, (413) 229-8265; Berkshire Hills Regional School District, Susan McVeety, (413) 298-3711; Farmington River Regional School District, Roberta Russell, (413) 269-4466; Lee Youth Association, Janet, (413) 243-5535. Resources For Childcare, located at 46 Summer Street in Pittsfield, handles day care vouchers and can be reached at (413) 499-7982. There is also a very informative camp guide which is available at local libraries,

the Family Center, and Resources For Childcare. Parents can contact the camp of their choice and ask if they offer any financial aid.

**New Additions to the Lending Library.** We now have videos of two recent workshops, "The Right Question" and "CDA-Certified Daycare Associate." Also available are two new videos, "Ten Things Every Child Needs" and "Vaccinations," and two new books, *Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder; Questions and Answers For Parents* by Gregory Greenberg and Wade B. Horn, and *When Your Child Is Difficult* by Mel Silberman, M.D.

**Beautiful Bubbles** (from "Growing Together," by the Cornell Cooperative Extension). Summer means outdoor fun. Blowing bubbles is a favorite activity for children of all ages. Enjoy the following bubble blowing ideas with your children- and have fun! Basic bubbles: Mix together 1/4 cup Joy liquid dishwashing detergent, six cups water, and 3/4 cup light corn syrup. Shake and let sit for a few hours. This solution makes blowing bubbles easy for even very young children. Also be aware that it makes the ground very slippery where the bubbles pop.

**Tools of the trade.** Slit straws: Cut one-inch slits in the ends of drinking straws; bend the strips back. Have the children take turns dipping the bent ends

of their slit straws in the bubble mixture and blow through the opposite end. Take four to six straws into a bundle for each child. Have them take turns dipping one end in the bubble mix and blowing out the opposite end. Paper cups: Poke holes in the bottoms of small paper cups. Have children take turns dipping the bottom of the cup in the bubble mix and blowing out from the rim. Plastic six-pack rings: Fasten pipe cleaner handles onto the sides of the plastic six-pack ring and then have children dip it in the bubble mix. Then blow through each of the holes.

Here is our calendar.

**Great Barrington Family Center drop-in times:** Mondays noon-2 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. (new evening hours to help meet needs of parents who work); Tuesdays and Fridays 3-5 p.m.; Wednesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m.-noon. Saturdays 10 a.m.-noon.

**Drop-in time for the Family Center at the Otis Town Hall:** Thursdays 9:30-11:30 a.m. Families can use the playroom, clothing exchange, lending library and meet with staff during drop-in hours. If these are inconvenient, please call for an appointment.

**Every Monday, Play and Learn Group** for three and four year olds, registration is required 10 a.m.-noon. A new group is forming for the summer months.

**Every Monday, Father and Child Group** 5:30 p.m.

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**Every Tuesday, Mother-Baby Exercise Class 8:30 a.m.** Pre-registration is required and childcare is available.

**Every Tuesday, English As a Second Language class 9:30 a.m.** Pre-registration is required and childcare is available.

**Every Wednesday and Thursday, Parent-Child Playgroups 9:30-11:30 a.m.**

**Regular playgroups will end June 12.**

**The Otis playgroup will continue on Thursdays** through the summer, meeting at the Otis School playground in good weather and at the Town Hall when rainy.

**Wednesdays and Thursdays in June** playgroups will meet at The Family Center in Great Barrington from 10 a.m.-noon, special activities will be planned: June 17, Painting; June 18, Cut and Paste; June 24, Make Your Own Playdough; and June 25, Make a Community Sculpture led by artist Laurel Tewes, appropriate for children age 4, 5, and 6 years. Please call to register.

**June 2, Licensed Day Care Providers support group 7 p.m.**

**June 3, Breast-feeding support group 9:30 a.m.,** Center For Pediatric and Adolescent Health Care, fourth floor, Fairview Hospital. For information please call (413) 528-8580

**June 10, Big Brother, Big Sister Sibling Class** led by Mary Jane Sackett, RN, 3:30 p.m. Call to register.

**June 11, Parent-Infant drop-in 2 p.m.** Come learn about family network services and The Family Center. Siblings welcomed. Meet other new parents. Call for more information.

**June 12, Field trip to Pleasant Valley Wildlife Sanctuary 10:30 a.m.** Bring a picnic. Passes available through the Arts Councils of West Stockbridge and Mount Washington, and the Family Network of the Children's Health Program.

**June 13, Story time at the Sandisfield Community Center** led by Kathleen Bracken, 10 a.m. Co-sponsored by the Sandisfield Arts Council and The Family Network of Children's Health Program Inc.

**June 14, Father-child activity, parachute play and light dinner 5:30 p.m.**

**June 19 and 26, Picnic at Lake Mansfield, Great Barrington.** (If rainy, at The Family Center in Great Barrington) 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

**June 21, Happy Fathers Day!** Give your father a hug!

**June 25, Make a community sculpture,** led by Laurel Tewes, artist, 10 a.m. Appropriate for children aged 4, 5, and 6 years. Please call to register.

**June 30, Get "Back" into Health,** a parent-child presentation by Dr. Adam Kerzner, a local family chiropractor. Learn about how the mind and body communicate and how we can keep our bodies healthy. Dr. Kerzner will be available for parent's questions about natural care for children with ear infections, asthma and other common health problems 3:30 p.m.

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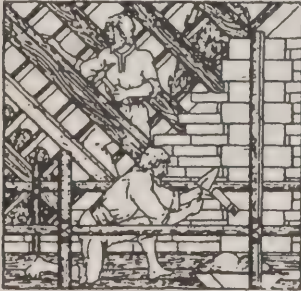
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## PROPHETIC PARADOX

*I long for the sweet oblivion  
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It's warm embrace calls me  
beckoning with silken hands  
I move toward it's dark depths  
sinking deeper  
It rocks me on a sea of lights  
So I float  
And wait for morning*

— Simon Spagnoletti

*How wealthy I am  
in such a lack  
how rich  
in the specific of poverty  
I have everything this day  
but you to share it with  
and so it seems I have nothing -  
yet, knowing such ever-brimming loss  
places me beyond my peers of need somehow  
it is like having all of never  
into which to set a now.*

— A.O. Howell



Some Familiar Faces from  
Town Meeting by Fran Amidon



## IGNORANCE SWELLS TUMOROUS

*ignorance swells tumorous  
pistols in the hands of babes  
hate fulfills it's bloody quest  
gaia stripped, choked, and burning  
while cigar smoke swirls proudly  
toward the ozone from wall street*

*i've changed my name once again  
this time to johnny greenleaf  
magic maples through the hills  
and swamplands omni pregnant  
mind of a man mad with spring  
dancing forsythian chants*

*philosophie cancer us  
separatio religio  
brothers murdering brothers  
on the steps of the "holy land"  
while sisters sell their aprons  
in the office, home beguiled*

*i'll run in daffodil rains  
watch hair grow wild as witch grass  
on the path of the wild thyme  
lovage loves my nose and paints  
the history of kettles  
soup is sacramental sea*

*desire us delirious  
landlord, what have you to sell?  
"armaments of any size  
for any size of killing  
lead us not into temptation  
just deliver us the bucks!"*

*sun, my master, wax and wane  
scripture this lover boy green  
till every round root's been stowed  
in the dream chest of darkness  
chives will rise instructing i  
to love is what we cook for*



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*Even a beaver pond needs time for reflection.*

— R. Zukowski



## MOUSE IN THE NIGHT

We always have mice around, though we rarely see them. Ours is a coexistence which is generally balanced and tolerant, but from time to time we get out the traps to remove a few of the kitchen-cupboard mice. This year our kitchen mice got tired of crackers and cereal and moved over to the seedlings, taking down 40 plants in one night. Peanut butter in the traps did not interest them: they were ready for greens.

Now that the greenery is lush outside, the mice have moved out. We only see them when our deadly night-mouser brings them in. She comes upstairs with the sweetest of mewing, instinctively calling to kittens she will never have. After awhile the drive to provide leaves her, and she drops her prize near our bed.

Last night I heard her, so enticing through my dreams. I came to, a little, and rolled over to bring my flashlight to bear. There she was, dark against the dark room, and in her jaws something white in a way the white can only be when it is shown up side by side with orange-tan. The edge where these colors meet is pure cream and seems to float, even by flashlight. This was not a deer

mouse, but a jumping mouse, which is less common and not seen in houses unless brought there against its will.

Jumping mice are members of the jerboa family, and if you haven't heard of a jerboa, maybe you have heard of gerbils, which are a desert form of jerboa.

Our jumping mouse is a woods dweller and likes to live near water. Many people, including me, have seen a jumping mouse swim, and its hind feet are

tionate distance, for his weight, he would have to clear four miles.

The mouse our cat brought in is purest white on the belly and throat. His sides are warm orange-tan with a few black hairs sprinkled in, and down his back and face he is less orange, more brown, with more black hairs. His whiskers are of two sorts: some curve eagerly forward and they are short—only up to three quarters of an inch. Others sweep grandly to the rear and are half as long as

the mouse. His long tail is tipped with white, and he suffered an injury to it at some time, resulting in a slight kink two inches back.

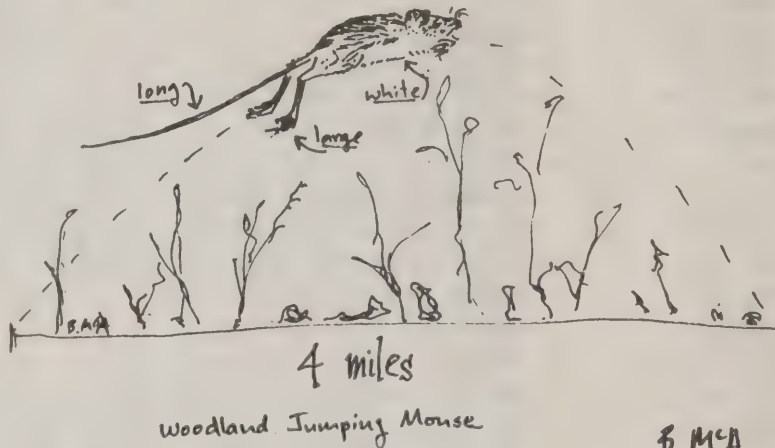
If this mouse had lost his tail, he could still have made his "four-mile" leaps, but without that counterbalance, he would have somersaulted end over end. People have observed this and said the mouse may land facing back

the way it has just come, so that its next leap will be back that way, often right into the jaws of whatever predator it is hoping to evade—or else right over it.

These mighty leaps are only used in life or death situations. Generally a jumping mouse scurries along like other mice, foraging for seeds, berries, acorns, beech nuts, buds, bark, insects, and sometimes carrion such as dead fish. Unlike other mice, the jumper sleeps in the winter. From October to March it is two to three feet underground in its winter burrow, emerging in spring to mate and then have babies in May. Within six weeks these will be full-grown and independent, and the parents will produce a second litter.

Our jumping mice are called *Napaeozapus*; the word *zapus* is Latin for *Some Feet!!* The Cree Indians called this small creature *Kwa-kwash-kan-ah-be-gah-not-see* which I can't translate but which seems somehow more appropriate to its monumental leaps.

— Bonner McAllester



slightly webbed. The more remarkable thing about its hind feet, though, is that they are nearly half the length of its body! And while we are giving statistics, here is one that was not computed by me and which I like so much that I have never wanted to double-check it for fear it could be untrue: the marvelous jumping mouse, with its seven-inch tail and three-inch body, can jump twelve feet at one bound. For a man to jump a propor-

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## WILDLIFE SURVEY

Black flies are now here in earnest, in mid-May, but we can take heart from the fact that they really are seasonal and their attentions will be tapering off in June as they move beyond the blood-thirsty phase of their reproductive cycle. They will go on serving the insect-eating birds, without bothering us.

**Black bear.** The one reported last month at Keyes Corner seems to have turned up again, ripping off old wooden lattices from some of the cottages around Parker's Cove. Dale Duryea interrupted the demolition and thinks the bear was searching for ants under the old wood. He estimates its weight at about 180 pounds, a good size, but not as big as all that fur makes it appear.

**Confrontational turkey.** Dale had a unique experience with a big gobbler that headed right for his truck instead of disappearing into cover, the usual way. Perhaps it was lonely: the females are sequestered on their nests, these days. Another imposing bird, the great blue heron, is nesting now: they can be seen on their large stick platforms at the north end of Pearson's Pond. And enough eagles have been seen over Lake Garfield, the Otis Reservoir, and in Otis, Blandford, and Tyringham to suggest that they are breeding again in this area, after their long absence.

**Observations on Beartown Mountain Road.** John Sylbert and Lisa Smyle report phoebes returning to last year's nest, on April 12, only to have a sharp shinned hawk swoop down and carry one of the pair off to a nearby tree and devour it in plain view of the house. On the same day they saw a pair of red-shouldered hawks near a nest on Art School Road, but by May 6 they had not confirmed whether the nest was in use. On April 19 "...neighbors of ours found a baby fox in the woods. (Their dog found it, actually.) They brought it home, fed it (it was famished) and called Dale Duryea, who said he would find a rehab center for it. Dale estimated the kit's age to be about six weeks. Lisa and I have spotted a red fox hunting, three times: on Tyringham Road, out in the field by Route 23 opposite Gould Farm, and just yesterday morning in our own backyard. Could this be the kit's mother? Dale suggested that foxes sometimes unload a kit if they're young and have

too many mouths to feed, but perhaps this was the mother and she was nearby when the kit was discovered?"

"Some migrants are arriving early this year. On February 18 there was a group of cedar waxwings in Great Barrington, and on the last day of February the killdeer had already returned to the fields at Gould Farm. On April 25 we went to the pond on Stony Brook Road and sighted a yellow warbler, a magnolia warbler, and a yellow-rumped warbler, and here at home a hermit thrush; on the 26, a red-eyed vireo at McLennan reservation in Tyringham, and an ovenbird and a black-throated green warbler the 27, on Beartown Mountain Road. There are also a number of broad-winged hawks cruising through the neighboring woods, usually being chased by crows."

**Treeswallows** are swooping and soaring around the nesting boxes at the Kimberley place on Town Hill Road and Dowd Meadow at the east end of Hupi Road. Both arrivals took place on May 19 and in the latter case there were three swallows investigating two boxes. A pair of mallards are considering nesting possibilities at the pond by the meadow, too.

**Two reports of things missing.** Dale Duryea comments that he has seen no woodchucks and wonders if it's because the coyotes are doing their job. Brian Snyder observes that no lambs have been lost to coyotes this spring at Gould Farm and wonders if it's due to the large increase in rodents mentioned in the public media, lately. Two years ago fourteen lambs were lost; last year it was down to seven. Could the increase in rodents be due to El Nino (milder weather); could the tornado, which came right through Gould Farm, have made increased habitat for rodents? Has anyone else in town observed an increase in rodents?

**Spring flowers.** The exciting first comers of last month's report have given way to the full complement. May 14: marigolds, yellow Alexander, blueberry, Clintonia, strawberry, wild apple trees, star flower, bluets, white trillium, red columbine; May 17: foam flower, pinxter (pink wild azalea), ladies' smock, meadow balsam, violets (blue, white, yellow), wild mustard, dandelion, Jack-in-the-pulpit, false Solomon's seal, helebores (in bud), Indian potato, raspberry, ground blackberry, baneberry, red

trillium, wild lilies of the valley, watercress, ground dogwood, buttercup. Myrtle and lilacs are at their peak and are so naturalized that they are both wild and domestic.

**From Bonner and Joe, Hupi Road:** April 30, solitary veery; May 2, towhee, black and white warbler; May 7, ovenbird, rosebreasted grosbeak; May 16: veery; May 19: June bug.

**From Mary Brock, Hunger Mountain Road:** May 17: "This is the gaudy time of year: purple finches, goldfinches, hummingbirds, and, a marvelous accent: an indigo bunting. Also, a rosebreasted grosbeak.

My little drama: the red bellied woodpecker who hung around all winter and then spent weeks "churring" hopefully, has disappeared. Let's hope that he's found a female to reward him and that they've settled somewhere nearby."

— David P. McAllester

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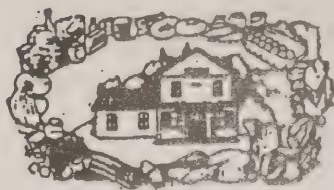
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## MEMORIAL SERVICE

### Frances Langdon Brett

There will be a memorial service at the United Church of Christ for Frances Langdon Brett on Saturday, June 27, at 2 p.m. The service will be followed by a reception given by her daughter, Marjorie Brett Day, at Mrs. Brett's home, 74 Brett Road.

Mrs. Brett died on December 20, 1997 at age ninety seven; at that time she was the oldest resident of Monterey. A teacher by profession, she taught at the old Corashire School on Main Road and would ride to school on horseback from West Otis. Brett was a member of the United Church of Christ and the Grange, and she served on the School Committee for thirty years.

## DONALD R. SABIN

Donald R. Sabin, age 94, died in St. George, Utah on April 19, 1998. Don and Velva Sabin came to Monterey in 1952, first as renters, and then soon purchased a home on Bidwell Road. They were summer residents continuously through 1983.

In 1944 Don became Mission Director for UNRRA in Warsaw, Poland where he was responsible for procurement and distribution of relief supplies. In 1947 he was appointed Coordinator of Field Operations for UNICEF to organize the shipment of food to the children of Europe, with special emphasis on providing milk.

Upon retiring in 1966 from his position as Director of Food & Nutrition for UNICEF, Mr. Sabin became the Executive Director of the Unitarian-Universalist Service Committee in Boston 1967-1970. In recognition of his humanitarian work he was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Laws by his alma mater, the University of Wyoming, in 1967.

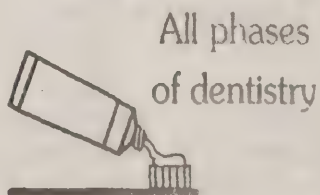
Velva Sabin died in 1990. Don is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, Shirley and Karl Quisenberry of Bidwell Road, and Ellen and Don Tadken of St. George, Utah. He is also survived by Bidwell Road grandchildren David and Keith Quisenberry, Nancy Brady, and their five children, and by grandchildren Craig, Neil, and Sandra Tadken, and by Craig's three children. All six of Don and Velva's grandchildren spent many wonderful times in Monterey, and had great experiences at Lake Garfield.



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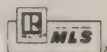


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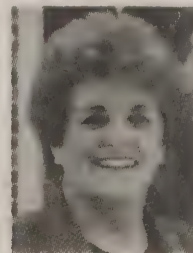
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## REP RAP

### Berkshires Win With House Budget.

Last month, the Massachusetts House of Representatives debated its budget and again, my diligent pursuits on behalf of Berkshire County paid off. The \$19 billion FY '99 house budget contains items that will increase state aid to our communities and our schools as well as language securing some of the key provisions I have advocated for throughout the years.

I sponsored many vital initiatives this year. For me, the theme of this budget was 'people and their needs and concerns'. To achieve this goal, the amendments I sponsored focused on improving the quality of life in the Berkshires as well as Commonwealth as a whole. Many of the issues that were successful this year were matters that I perennially support. With my persistence and determination, the House has made a strong commitment on many items that directly affect Berkshire County.

It is no secret that I am a strong proponent of firearms safety. One of the successful amendments I put forward was to require all gun owners to equip safety locks on all weapons stored in their homes. This unanimous amendment also exempted these safety trigger locks from state sales tax as an incentive to purchase the child proof devices.

On a related issue, I was successful in securing a commitment from Speaker of the House Thomas M. Finneran (D-Mattapan) to allow debate on the House floor for a ban on assault weapons. Speaker Finneran has stated publicly that the issue will come before the House before June 15. I have been filing the assault weapons ban legislation year after year in my adamant pursuit of public safety. Every year, debate on the issue has been squashed due to pressure from special interest groups. Finally, the issue will speak for itself and an open and democratic debate will begin. I will continue to pursue a ban on assault weapons until it is securely imbedded in state law.

I filed other successful amendments that have direct impact on Berkshire County such as \$50,000 for the Berk-

shire Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program through the juvenile court system. This program trains volunteers to serve as court appointed advocates for abused or neglected children.

I redrafted an amendment regarding the Berkshire Economic Development Authority striking language that would have indemnified General Electric from responsibility for health and environmental damage.

Also, I was successful in adding language that would mandate the creation of a commission to investigate the structure and operation of physician practice management groups and the impact these groups have on health care access and quality in the Commonwealth.

With my support, the House budget provides a \$28 million salary increase for mental health direct care providers and the Department of Mental Retardation's waiting list will be substantially decreased by \$16 million in funding.

The budget also increases the minimum school aid allocation to \$100 per student from the previous level of \$75 per student. Education reform has been

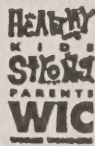
fully funded this year and local aid accounts will receive an 8.5 percent increase over last year. I have doggedly pursued regional school transportation reimbursements and I am proud to announce that 1999 will be the first in a three year commitment to reach full funding.

A vital measure for local governments is the state's Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT). With my continued advocacy, PILOT for state-owned land increased again this year. With the amount of state-owned land in Berkshire County, this measure will bring substantial revenue to our community.

My achieved goal for this budget was to make sure that the state's prosperity was felt by all and that any gains from a strong economy be used to recommit the Commonwealth's resources to agencies and programs focused on improving our quality of life.

The Senate will release its budget this month. A conference committee will convene to reconcile the differences before the new fiscal year begins at the end of July.

— Rep. Christopher J. Hodgkins



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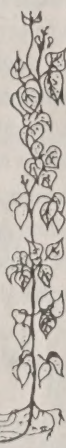
April 25 - May 25

High temp. (5/16) .....	83.5°
Low temp. (4/28) .....	29.1°
Wind chilled low temp. ( 4/27) ....	15.8°
Ave. high temp. ....	67.8°
Ave. low temp. ....	44.4°
Ave temp. ....	56.1°
Precipitation (14 days) .....	3.66"
High bar. press. (4/27) .....	30.21"
Low bar. press. (5/2) .....	29.45"
High wind gust (5/21) .....	30 mph.

## Gould Farm's

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## CALENDAR

**Sundays**, AA meeting 9 a.m., in the Monterey Fire House, Main Road.

**Friday, June 5**, Gould Farm's Spring Choral Concert, 7:30, Main House.

**Friday, June 12**, Sandisfield artist Susan Crofut exhibits her watercolors at the Berkshire Art Gallery, Jenifer House Commons. The show runs through July 3. Gallery hours are 12-5 p.m., Wednesday to Monday. For more information call the gallery at (413) 528-9361.

**Saturday, June 13**, Book signing from 1-3p.m. at the Bidwell House, Art School Road. A celebration of the book *Country Acres*, which features the Bidwell House on its cover. Meet best-selling author David Larkin and tour the gardens.

**Monday, June 15**, 10 a.m.-noon, South County La Leche League meets at the Guthrie Center, Great Barrington. Free advice and support for breastfeeding. For questions and directions call Maureen at 528-6619.

**Monday, June 15-Thursday, June 18**, Nature walks with Bonner McAllister, 9-10:30 a.m., for children age six to twelve. For information and to register call 528-9385

**Friday, June 19**, Rachel Fletcher, coordinator of the Housatonic River Restoration, will give a presentation on the Housatonic River, 7:30 p.m., at the Knox Museum (attached to the Monterey Library). Refreshments will follow.

**Saturday, June 20**, Opening of the new

Acorn Gallery, Route 57, Sandisfield, (opposite little brown and white church), 1-5 p.m.

**Friday, June 26**, Council on Aging luncheon, noon, Town Hall, Main Road. Summer residents are encouraged to attend.

**Saturday, June 27 and Sunday June 28**, Colonial Encampment from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at the Bidwell House, Art School Road. Admission: Adults \$3, children \$1. Come see a re-creation of authentic colonial camp life.

**Saturday, June 27**, Square and contradancing 8:30-11:30 p.m., at the Sheffield Grange, Route 7, Sheffield, Mass. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Joe Baker. All dances are taught and beginners and children are welcome. Refreshments served at intermission. Adults \$5, children \$2. Information (413) 528-9385 or (518) 329-7578.

**Saturday, June 27**, acclaimed pianist Grant Johannesen performs a benefit concert at the Lenox Town Hall, 8 p.m. Tickets are \$20, proceeds to benefit the restoration of the Sandisfield Arts Center.



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*Contributions from local artists this month: Fran Amidon pg.12, Bonner McAllester pg.14.*

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